

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph 0023 with the following:

[0023] The orthodontic bracket 1 further comprises a main body-20 rising from the base 2. The body-20 and the base 2, i.e. the whole bracket 1, are integral one with the other, and in particular constructed in a single piece.

Please replace paragraph 0024 with the following:

[0024] On the body-20, in slightly raised position relative to the base 2, is obtained a housing 3 apt to receive an orthodontic wire 8, the latter shown in dashed lines in FIG. 3. In particular, said housing is in the form of a groove extending transversely relative to the base 2.

Please replace paragraph 0027 with the following:

[0027] The body-20 further comprises three engaging tabs projecting outwardly and able to engage and hold a system for binding the dental arc. More specifically, the bracket 1 comprises a first tab 4 and a second tab 5 substantially parallel and side by side with respect to each other and a third tab 6 arranged at the opposite side of the housing 3 relative to the other two tabs 4 and 5.

Please replace paragraph 0029 with the following:

[0029] The main body-20 further comprises a member 7 for retaining the orthodontic wire within the housing 3. In the present embodiment, the retaining member 7 is in the form of a protruding wedge-shaped fin positioned superiorly to the tabs 4, 5 and 6 and in a centred position relative to the housing 3. In particular, the member 7 is interposed between the first and the second tab 4 and 5 and oriented towards the opposite side with respect thereto.

Please replace the abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT

A bracket for lingual orthodontics, comprising including a base (2) to be fastened onto the lingual side of a tooth, three engaging tabs (4, 5, 6) adapted to engage and hold a system (9) for binding the dental arc, a housing (3) for an orthodontic wire (8) which extends along the dental arc, and a member (7) for retaining the orthodontic wire within said the housing (3), which

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

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PAGE 3

Attorney Docket No. 118.038US01

extends only along a limited segment thereof and facing the housing (3) in such a way as to abut the orthodontic wire (8) received in-said the housing (3).